



Petroleum Brownfields

INFORMATION SHEET

INTRODUCTION

On January 11, 2002, President George W. Bush signed into law the "Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act" (Public Law 107-118). This law gives communities across the country the tools they need to reclaim and restore thousands of Brownfields sites, including petroleum-contaminated sites such as old abandoned gas stations. In 2003, EPA awarded close to \$23 million for the assessment and cleanup of petroleum-contaminated Brownfields. Proposals for FY 2004 grants are now being accepted.

GRANT PROPOSAL GUIDELINES

Grant proposal guidelines have been published; see "*Proposal Guidelines for Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, and Cleanup Grants*," http://epa.gov/brownfields/pg/fy04_proposal_guidelines.pdf, EPA-500-F-03-244, October 2003. The due date for proposal submission is **December 4, 2003**. New grants will be announced by spring 2004.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE BROWNFIELDS LAW

- # Expands eligibility for Brownfields funding by broadening the entities eligible for funding for assessment, cleanup, and job training grants.
- # Defines a Brownfields site broadly, but excludes certain sites from funding eligibility unless EPA makes a property-specific determination to fund.
- # Requires a 20 percent cost share for revolving loan fund and cleanup grants.
- # Specifies grant funds cannot be used for administrative costs.

PETROLEUM BROWNFIELDS SNAPSHOT

Date of New Law: January 11, 2002

Grants for: Assessment, revolving loan fund, job training, and cleanups

Grant Proposal Due Date: December 4, 2003

Definition of a Brownfields Site: "...real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant."

Additional Areas Now Specifically Eligible for Funding: Sites contaminated by petroleum and petroleum products

Proposal Guidelines: *Proposal Guidelines for Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, and Cleanup Grants*, http://epa.gov/brownfields/pg/fy04_proposal_guidelines.pdf

Contacts and Information:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
Office of Underground Storage Tanks (OUST)
Washington, DC 20460
(703) 603-9900

Visit the EPA OUST website at:

<http://www.epa.gov/oust/ustfield/index.htm>

Visit the EPA Brownfields website at:

<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields> for further information, including specific EPA Brownfields contacts, additional pilot information, Brownfields news and events, and publications and links.

PETROLEUM BROWNFIELDS

The Brownfields law allows EPA to award Brownfields grants for activities at petroleum-contaminated sites. To be eligible, EPA or the state must make the determinations that a petroleum-contaminated site:

- # is of “relatively low-risk” compared with other petroleum-contaminated sites in the state;
- # has “no viable responsible party”[note changes from 2002; see Appendix 3.3.2];
- # will be assessed, investigated, or cleaned up by a person not potentially liable for the contamination; and
- # is not subject to a corrective action order under Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) §9003(h).

The *Proposal Guidelines* for assessment, revolving loan fund, and cleanup grants provide direction on the information an applicant should provide to a state or EPA about a proposed site. With the exception of Tribes, applicants must first request that their state make these determinations. If a state is unable to make the determinations, the applicant may request that EPA make the determinations. To assure that grant proposals meet the December 4, 2003, deadline for submission, applicants requesting EPA make the determinations must do so no later than 2 weeks prior to that date.

For further information:

<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/>

<http://www.epa.gov/oust/ustfield/index.htm>

Proposal Guidelines for Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, and Cleanup Grants and Appendix 3.

EPA-500-F-03-244, October 2003,

http://epa.gov/brownfields/pg/fy04_proposal_guidelines.pdf

Goodale's Bike Shop now stands on former petroleum-contaminated site in Nashua, New Hampshire



**Office of Solid Waste and
Emergency Response
(5401G)**

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www.epa.gov/oust/ustfield/**